

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1838

To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (The Royal Road of the Interior Lands), and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 1993

Mr. RICHARDSON (for himself and Mr. COLEMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (The Royal Road of the Interior Lands), and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “El Camino Real de  
5       Tierra Adentro Study Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       The Congress finds that—

1           (1) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro was the  
2       primary route for nearly 300 years that was used by  
3       clergy, colonists, soldiers, Indians, officials and trade  
4       caravans between Mexico and New Mexico;

5           (2) from the Spanish colonial period (1598–  
6       1821), through the Mexican national period (1821–  
7       1848), and through part of the United States Terri-  
8       torial period (1848–1912), El Camino Real de Tier-  
9       ra Adentro extended 1,800 miles from Mexico City  
10      through Chihuahua City, El Paso del Norte, and on  
11      to Santa Fe in northern New Mexico;

12          (3) the road was the first to be developed by  
13      Europeans in what is now the United States and for  
14      a time was one of the longest roads in North Amer-  
15      ica; and

16          (4) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, until  
17      the arrival of the railroad in the 1880s, witnessed  
18      and stimulated great multicultural exchanges and  
19      the evolution of nations, peoples, and cultures.

20 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA**  
21 **ADENTRO IN THE UNITED STATES.**

22      Section 5(c) of the National Trails System Act (16  
23 U.S.C. 1244(c)) is amended by adding the following new  
24 paragraph at the end thereof:

1           “( ) El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, the ap-  
2           proximately 350 mile route extending from the inter-  
3           national border at El Paso, Texas, across to Santa  
4           Fe, New Mexico. The study shall (A) examine  
5           changing routes within the general corridor, (B) ex-  
6           amine major connecting branch routes, and (C) give  
7           due consideration to alternative name designations.”.

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